

### **REMARKS**

The Application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action mailed August 4, 2004 by the Office. At the time of this Office Action, Claims 1-20 were pending in the Application, of which Claims 1-4, 6-14 and 16-20 were rejected and Claims 5 and 15 were objected to. In order to advance prosecution of this case, Claims 1, 3, 6, 8, 9, 11, 13, 14, 16 and 20 have been amended to overcome the rejections asserted by the Office, to correct various informalities and to state more clearly what the Applicant claims as his invention. Additionally, claims 5, 12, 15, 17, 18 and 19 have been canceled and new Claims 21 and 22 have been presented. It is believed that the amended claims do not involve any introduction of new matters, whereby entry is believed to be in order and is respectfully requested. The Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and favorable action in this case.

The following actions were taken or matters raised: (I) Claims 3, 6-8, 11 and 18-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as the invention; (II) Claims 1-4, 6-7, 9-10, 12-14 and 16-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Owens (US Patent No. 5,971,685); (III) Claims 5 and 15 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim; and (IV) Claims 8, 11, and 19-20 have been stated as allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. § 112 and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

**I. Claims 3, 6-8, 11 and 18-20 Rejected Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph,**

Claims 3, 6-8, 11 and 18-20 have been amended to overcome the cited rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

**II. Objected To Claims**

Claim 1, which is the immediate base claim of Claim 5, has been rewritten to include the limitations of Claim 5. Claim 9, which is the immediate base claim of Claim 12 and the intervened base claim of Claim 15 dependent upon Claim 12, has been rewritten to include the limitations of Claims 12 and Claim 15.

**III. Allowable Claims**

New Claim 21 includes all of the limitations of Claim 8, its base and any intervening claims. New Claim 22 includes all of the limitations of Claim 11, its base and any intervening claims. Claim 16, which is the base claim of Claim 19 and intervening Claims 17 and 18, has been rewritten to include the limitations of Claims 17-19.


**IV. Amendments to Miscellaneous Other Claims**

Other claims have been amended to correct claim dependencies in accordance with the amended claims presented herein.

### CONCLUSION

The Applicant has made an earnest attempt to place this case in condition for allowance. For the foregoing reasons, and for reasons clearly apparent, the Applicant respectfully requests full allowance of all pending claims. If there are any matters that can be discussed by telephone to further the prosecution of the Application, the Applicant invites the Examiner to contact the undersigned at 512-372-8240 at the Examiner's convenience.

Respectfully Submitted,  
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